

**Top Secret**

DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE

# *Central Intelligence Bulletin*

State Dept. review completed

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**Page Denied**

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied

26 April 1968

# *Central Intelligence Bulletin*

## *CONTENTS*

South Korea: The government has decided to go slow  
on more troops for Vietnam. (Page 4)

25X1

25X1

**Page Denied**

Next 3 Page(s) In Document Denied

25X1

SOUTH KOREA: THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPARENTLY DECIDED TO GO SLOW IN SENDING ADDITIONAL COMBAT TROOPS TO VIETNAM IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN FURTHER CONCESSIONS FROM THE US.

ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] EMBASSY CABLE, THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD AMBASSADOR PORTER ON 24 APRIL THAT THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT INTEND TO TAKE ACTION ON THE PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON DISPATCH OF 6,000 ADDITIONAL TROOPS UNTIL IT SEES THE EXTENT OF COMMUNIST INFILTRATION IN KOREA DURING JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT SEOUL WOULD BE PREPARED AT ANY TIME TO SEND THE PROPOSED 5,000 CIVILIANS TO VIETNAM TO FREE SOUTH KOREAN SOLDIERS FOR COMBAT DUTY.

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The South Korean leadership undoubtedly is very concerned over a possible increase in North Korean pressure against the South this summer. Nonetheless, the primary reason behind Seoul's delay in furnishing additional troops to Vietnam is almost certainly a desire to bargain for further concessions from the US in terms of increased military aid and a more specific commitment to participate in resisting a North Korean attack.

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26 Apr 68

4

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**Page Denied**

Next 5 Page(s) In Document Denied

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25X1

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